

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 2003/001850

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: B01L 3/00, G01N 35/00, B81B 1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: B01L, G01N, B81B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0693560 A2 (BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY), 24 January 1996 (24.01.1996), abstract --	1-6
A	WO 0053317 A1 (BIOMERIEUX S.A.), 14 Sept 2000 (14.09.2000), abstract --	1-6
A	US 5627041 A (R.J.SHARTLE), 6 May 1997 (06.05.1997), abstract --	1-6
Y	WO 0153794 A1 (NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY), 26 July 2001 (26.07.2001), abstract	7,10-12, 15-19
A	--	8-9,13-14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

23-02-2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Swedish Patent Office

Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM

Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Mats Raidla /itw

Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

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PCT/SE 2003/001850

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 1156325 A1 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.), 21 November 2001 (21.11.2001), abstract -----	7,10-12, 15-19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

24/12/2003

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EP	0693560	A2	24/01/1996	AU	2331095	A	01/02/1996
				BR	9503364	A	27/02/1996
				CA	2152307	A	20/01/1996
				JP	8062225	A	08/03/1996
				SG	32408	A	13/08/1996
				US	5639428	A	17/06/1997
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WO	0053317	A1	14/09/2000	AU	1566300	A	26/06/2000
				AU	3294900	A	28/09/2000
				CA	2364465	A	14/09/2000
				EP	1138128	A	04/10/2001
				EP	1159067	A	05/12/2001
				FR	2790682	A,B	15/09/2000
				JP	2002538480	A	12/11/2002
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US	5627041	A	06/05/1997	AT	208902	T	15/11/2001
				AU	700750	B	14/01/1999
				AU	3462795	A	27/03/1996
				CA	2198854	A	14/03/1996
				DE	69523931	D,T	29/08/2002
				EP	0778950	A,B	18/06/1997
				JP	10505672	T	02/06/1998
				US	5912134	A	15/06/1999
				WO	9607919	A	14/03/1996
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WO	0153794	A1	26/07/2001	NONE			
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EP	1156325	A1	21/11/2001	CN	1339105	T	06/03/2002
				JP	2001159618	A	12/06/2001
				WO	0140788	A	07/06/2001
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see extra sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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The application contains two independent inventions, namely:

Invention 1, claim 1

An arrangement for rotating one or more microfluidic devices. The devices are attached to seats on a rotary member. The seats are positioned at the same radial distance. The internal microconduit portion, of the microfluidic device, has an upstream part positioned at a shorter radial distance than a downstream part when the microfluidic device is placed in any of the seats.

Invention 2, claim 7.

A microfluidic device comprising one or more equal microchannel structures. Each of the inlet ports is present on an edge side of the device. The wettability of the inner walls of the inlet permits penetration by self-suction of a predetermined volume of an aqueous liquid.

These inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. There is no technical relationship among these two inventions involving a corresponding technical feature. Accordingly the inventions 1 and 2 do not fulfil the requirements for unity.